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[Report No. 109–102]

To establish a program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to integrate Federal coastal and ocean mapping activities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 10, 2005

Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LOTT, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. GREGG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

JULY 13, 2005

Reported by Mr. STEVENS, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To establish a program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to integrate Federal coastal and ocean mapping activities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Ocean and Coastal
3 Mapping Integration Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. INTEGRATED OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING PRO-**
5 **GRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Na-
7 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall es-
8 tablish a program to develop, in coordination with the
9 Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Mapping,
10 a coordinated and comprehensive Federal ocean and coast-
11 al mapping plan for the Great Lakes and Coastal State
12 waters, the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone,
13 and the continental shelf of the United States that en-
14 hances ecosystem approaches in decision-making for con-
15 servation and management of marine resources and habi-
16 tats, establishes research priorities, supports the siting of
17 research and other platforms, and advances ocean and
18 coastal science.

19 (b) PROGRAM PARAMETERS.—In developing such a
20 program, the Administrator shall work with the Com-
21 mittee to—

22 (1) identify all Federal and federally-funded
23 programs conducting shoreline delineation and ocean
24 or coastal mapping, noting geographic coverage, fre-
25 quency, spatial coverage, resolution, and subject

1 matter focus of the data and location of data ar-
2 chives;

3 (2) promote cost-effective, cooperative mapping
4 efforts *that incorporate policies for private sector*
5 *contracting* among all Federal agencies conducting
6 ocean and coastal mapping agencies by increasing
7 data sharing, developing data acquisition and
8 metadata standards, and facilitating the interoper-
9 ability of in situ data collection systems, data proc-
10 essing, archiving, and distribution of data products;

11 (3) facilitate the adaptation of existing tech-
12 nologies as well as foster expertise in new ocean and
13 coastal mapping technologies, including through re-
14 search, development, and training conducted in co-
15 operation with the private sector, academia, and
16 other non-Federal entities;

17 (4) develop standards and protocols for testing
18 innovative experimental mapping technologies and
19 transferring new technologies between the Federal
20 Government and the private sector or academia;

21 (5) centrally archive, manage, and distribute
22 data sets as well as provide mapping products and
23 services to the general public in service of statutory
24 requirements;

1 (6) develop specific data presentation standards
2 for use by Federal, State, and other entities that
3 document locations of federally-permitted activities,
4 living and nonliving resources, marine ecosystems,
5 sensitive habitats, submerged cultural resources, un-
6 dersea cables, offshore aquaculture projects, and any
7 areas designated for the purposes of environmental
8 protection or conservation and management of living
9 marine resources; and

10 (7) identify the procedures to be used for co-
11 ordinating Federal data with State and local govern-
12 ment programs.

13 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON OCEAN AND COAST-**
14 **AL MAPPING.**

15 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established
16 an Interagency Committee on Ocean and Coastal Map-
17 ping.

18 (b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Committee shall be com-
19 prised of senior representatives from Federal agencies
20 with ocean and coastal mapping and surveying responsibil-
21 ities. The representatives shall be high-ranking officials of
22 their respective agencies or departments and, whenever
23 possible, the head of the portion of the agency or depart-
24 ment that is most relevant to the purposes of this Act.
25 Membership shall include senior representatives from the

1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the
 2 Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Geological
 3 Survey, Minerals Management Service, National Science
 4 Foundation, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency,
 5 United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States
 6 Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal
 7 Emergency Management Agency and National Aero-
 8 nautics and Space Administration, and other appropriate
 9 Federal agencies involved in ocean and coastal mapping.

10 (c) CHAIRMAN.—The Committee shall be chaired by
 11 the representative from the National Oceanic and Atmos-
 12 pheric Administration. The chairman may create sub-
 13 committees chaired by any member agency of the com-
 14 mittee. Working groups may be formed by the full Com-
 15 mittee to address issues of short duration.

16 (d) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet on a
 17 quarterly basis, but subcommittee or working group meet-
 18 ings shall meet on an as-needed basis.

19 (e) COORDINATION.—The committee ~~should~~ *shall* co-
 20 ordinate activities, when appropriate, with—

21 (1) other Federal efforts, including the Digital
 22 Coast, Geospatial One-Stop, and the Federal Geo-
 23 graphic Data Committee;

24 (2) international mapping activities; ~~and~~

- 1 (3) States and user groups through workshops
 2 and other appropriate ~~mechanisms~~; *mechanisms*; and
 3 (4) *representatives of the private sector*.

4 **SEC. 4. NOAA INTEGRATED MAPPING INITIATIVE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
 6 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in con-
 7 sultation with the Committee, shall develop and submit to
 8 the Congress a plan for an integrated ocean and coastal
 9 mapping initiative within the National Oceanic and At-
 10 mospheric Administration.

11 (b) PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall—

12 (1) identify and describe all ocean and coastal
 13 mapping programs within the agency, including
 14 those that conduct mapping or related activities in
 15 the course of existing missions, such as hydrographic
 16 surveys, ocean exploration projects, living marine re-
 17 source conservation and management programs,
 18 coastal zone management projects, and ocean and
 19 coastal science projects;

20 (2) establish priority mapping programs and es-
 21 tablish and periodically update priorities for geo-
 22 graphic areas in surveying and mapping, as well as
 23 minimum data acquisition and metadata standards
 24 for those programs;

1 (3) encourage the development of innovative
2 ocean and coastal mapping technologies and applica-
3 tions through research and development through co-
4 operative or other agreements at joint centers of ex-
5 cellence and with the private sector;

6 (4) document available and developing tech-
7 nologies, best practices in data processing and dis-
8 tribution, and leveraging opportunities with other
9 Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations,
10 and the private sector;

11 (5) identify training, technology, and other re-
12 source requirements for enabling the National Oce-
13 anic and Atmospheric Administration's programs,
14 ships, and aircraft to support a coordinated ocean
15 and coastal mapping program;

16 (6) identify a centralized mechanism or office
17 for coordinating data collection, processing,
18 archiving, and dissemination activities of all such
19 mapping programs within the National Oceanic and
20 Atmospheric Administration, including—

21 (A) designating primary data processing
22 centers to maximize efficiency in information
23 technology investment, develop consistency in
24 data processing, and meet Federal mandates
25 for data accessibility; and

1 (B) designating a repository that is re-
 2 sponsible for archiving and managing the dis-
 3 tribution of all ocean and coastal mapping data
 4 to simplify the provision of services to benefit
 5 Federal and State programs; and

6 ~~(6)~~ (7) set forth a timetable for implementation
 7 and completion of the plan, including a schedule for
 8 periodic Congressional progress reports, and rec-
 9 ommendations for integrating approaches developed
 10 under the initiative into the interagency program.

11 (c) NOAA JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING
 12 CENTERS.—The Administrator is authorized to maintain
 13 and operate up to 3 joint ocean and coastal mapping cen-
 14 ters, including a joint hydrographic center, which shall be
 15 co-located with an institution of higher education. The
 16 centers shall serve as hydrographic centers of excellence
 17 and are authorized to conduct activities necessary to carry
 18 out the purposes of this Act, including—

19 (1) research and development of innovative
 20 ocean and coastal mapping technologies, equipment,
 21 and data products;

22 (2) mapping of the United States outer conti-
 23 nental shelf;

24 (3) data processing for non-traditional data and
 25 uses;

1 (4) advancing the use of remote sensing tech-
2 nologies, for related issues, including mapping and
3 assessment of essential fish habitat and of coral re-
4 sources, ocean observations and ocean exploration;
5 and

6 (5) providing graduate education in ocean and
7 coastal mapping sciences for National Oceanic and
8 Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer
9 Corps, personnel of other agencies with ocean and
10 coastal mapping programs, and civilian personnel.

11 *(d) NOAA REPORT.—The Administrator shall con-*
12 *tinue developing a strategy for expanding contracting with*
13 *private entities to minimize duplication and take max-*
14 *imum advantage of private sector capabilities in fulfilling*
15 *the Administration's mapping and charting responsibil-*
16 *ities. Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this*
17 *Act, the Administrator shall transmit a report describing*
18 *the strategy developed under this subsection to the Senate*
19 *Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and*
20 *the House of Representatives Committee on Resources.*

21 **SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY PROGRAM REPORTING.**

22 No later than 18 months after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, and bi-annually thereafter, the Chairman of
24 the Committee shall transmit to the Senate Committee on
25 Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of

1 Representatives Committee on Resources a report detail-
2 ing progress made in implementing the provisions of this
3 Act, including—

4 (1) an inventory of ocean and coastal mapping
5 data, noting the metadata, within the territorial seas
6 and the exclusive economic zone and throughout the
7 continental shelf of the United States, noting the
8 age and source of the survey and the spatial resolu-
9 tion (metadata) of the data;

10 (2) identification of priority areas in need of
11 survey coverage using present technologies;

12 (3) a resource plan that identifies when priority
13 areas in need of modern ocean and coastal mapping
14 surveys can be accomplished;

15 (4) the status of efforts to produce integrated
16 digital maps of ocean and coastal areas;

17 (5) a description of any products resulting from
18 coordinated mapping efforts under this Act that im-
19 prove public understanding of the coasts, oceans, or
20 regulatory decision-making;

21 (6) documentation of minimum and desired
22 standards for data acquisition and integrated
23 metadata;

1 (7) a statement of the status of Federal efforts
2 to leverage mapping technologies, coordinate map-
3 ping activities, share expertise, and exchange data;

4 (8) a statement of resource requirements for or-
5 ganizations to meet the goals of the program, includ-
6 ing technology needs for data acquisition, processing
7 and distribution systems;

8 (9) a statement of the status of efforts to de-
9 classify data gathered by the Navy, the National
10 Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and other agencies to
11 the extent possible without jeopardizing national se-
12 curity, and make it available to partner agencies and
13 the public; and

14 (10) a resource plan for a digital coast inte-
15 grated mapping pilot project for the northern Gulf
16 of Mexico that will—

17 (A) cover the area from the authorized
18 coastal counties through the territorial sea;

19 (B) identify how such a pilot project will
20 leverage public and private mapping data and
21 resources, such as the United States Geological
22 Survey National Map, to result in an oper-
23 ational coastal change assessment program for
24 the subregion; ~~and~~

1 (11) the status of efforts to coordinate Federal
 2 programs with State and local government programs
 3 and leverage those ~~programs~~ *programs; and*

4 *(12) describes efforts of Federal agencies to in-*
 5 *crease private sector contracting.*

6 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the amounts au-
 8 thorized by section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Im-
 9 provement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), there are au-
 10 thorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry
 11 out this Act—

- 12 (1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
- 13 (2) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
- 14 (3) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;
- 15 (4) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and
- 16 (5) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010
 17 through 2013.

18 (b) JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CEN-
 19 TERS.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to sub-
 20 section (a), the following amounts shall be used to carry
 21 out section 4(c) of this Act:

- 22 (1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.
- 23 (2) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.
- 24 (3) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.
- 25 (4) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

1 (5) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010
2 through 2013.

3 (c) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—Notwithstanding
4 any other provision of law, from amounts authorized to
5 be appropriated for fiscal years 2006 through 2013 to the
6 Department of Defense, the Department of the Interior,
7 the Department of Homeland Security, the Environmental
8 Protection Agency, and the National Aeronautics and
9 Space Administration, the head of each such department
10 or agency may make available not more than \$10,000,000
11 per fiscal year to carry out interagency activities under
12 section 3 of this Act.

13 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

14 In this Act:

15 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
16 trator” means the Administrator of the National
17 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

18 (2) COASTAL STATE.—The term “coastal state”
19 has the meaning given that term by section 304(4)
20 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16
21 U.S.C. 1453(4)).

22 (3) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”
23 means the Interagency Ocean Mapping Committee
24 established by section 3.

1 (4) EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—The term
2 “exclusive economic zone” means the exclusive eco-
3 nomic zone of the United States established by Pres-
4 idential Proclamation No. 5030, of March 10, 1983.

5 (5) OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.—The term
6 “ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition,
7 processing, and management of physical, biological,
8 geological, chemical, and archaeological characteris-
9 tics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, re-
10 sources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics,
11 satellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging,
12 direct sampling, and other mapping technologies.

13 (6) TERRITORIAL SEA.—The term “territorial
14 sea” means the belt of sea measured from the base-
15 line of the United States determined in accordance
16 with international law, as set forth in Presidential
17 Proclamation Number 5928, dated December 27,
18 1988.

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